

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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R 141439Z MAY 75

FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5842

INFO AEC GERMANTOWN

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION GENEVA

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GENEVA FOR USDEL REVCON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, IAEA, IT, SW, SP

SUBJECT: ITALIAN CANDIDACY FOR DESIGNATED SEAT IN BOARD OF GOVERNORS: SPANISH DEMARCHE

REF: (A) IAEA VIENNA 4077; (B) STATE 107693

1. AS FORESEEN BY ITALIAN AMB. CAGIATI (REF A), SPANISH COUNSELLOR (MAHOU) CALLED AT MISSION 5/13 TO PRESENT SPANISH ARGUMENT IN CURRENT DISPUTE REGARDING ITALY'S RETENTION OF DESIGNATED SEAT ON BOARD. MAHOU'S ARGUMENT WAS BRIEF AND TO THE POINT: ARTICLE VI OF AGENCY STATUTE AS REVISED DID NOT ENDOW ANY MEMBER WITH "PERMANENT" STATUS OF "MOST ADVANCED IN TECHNOLOGY OF ATOMIC ENERGY"; IT PROVIDED RATHER THAT THESE NINE BOARD MEMBERS BE DESIGNATED ANEW EACH JUNE BY THE OUTGOING BOARD. FAR FROM CONCURRING IN ANY FORMER CONSENSUS WHICH MAY HAVE CONTEMPLATED DESIGNATION IN "PERPETUITY", SWEDISH AND SPANISH REPS HAD REPEATEDLY PLACED ON RECORD AT BOARD STATEMENTS CALLING ATTENTION OF MEMBERS

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TO REQUIREMENT FOR ANNUAL DESIGNATION. FURTHERMORE,

SPAIN AND SWEDEN FELT THAT THEY HAD NOT BEEN SUFFICIENTLY CONSULTED ON THIS MATTER IN THE PAST BY OTHER MEMBERS OF WE GROUP IN INFORMAL PRE-BOARD CONSULTATIONS. BOTH SPAIN AND SWEDEN NOW FELT THAT EACH COULD PRODUCE TECHNICAL DATA WHICH WOULD SHOW THAT THEIR NUCLEAR ENERGY PROGRAMS ARE AT LEAST ON A PAR WITH ITALIAN PROGRAM, AND TIME HAD COME FOR ITALY TO MAKE ROOM FOR THEM AS "DESIGNATED MEMBER".

2. MAHOU CONFIRMED THAT SPANISH AND SWISS AMBASSADORS, IN CALL ON CAGIATI, HAD PROPOSED ROTATIONAL ARRANGEMENT WHEREBY THE THREE STATES WOULD SHARE "DESIGNATED" SEAT IN TURN. GOI HAD REJECTED THIS PROPOSAL, SUGGESTING INSTEAD THAT SWEDEN AND SPAIN WORK OUT SOLUTION WITH OTHER WE STATES WHICH WOULD PERMIT THEM TO BE MORE FREQUENTLY REPRESENTED ON BOARD AS ELECTED MEMBERS. THIS WAS UNACCEPTABLE TO MADRID AND STOCKHOLM.

3. ALL MEMBERS OF WE GROUP ARE ANXIOUS TO AVOID A CONFRONTATION AT JUNE BOARD, MAHOU SAID, AND GROUP WILL HOLD MEETING MAY 16 TO ATTEMPT RESOLVE THE IMPASSE. SHOULD THIS NOT BE SUCCESSFUL, SPAIN AND SWEDEN ARE PREPARED TO TAKE THIS ISSUE TO A VOTE AT THE BOARD. MAHOU SAID SPAIN WOULD TAKE UP THE MATTER IN WASHINGTON AND OTHER CAPITALS.

4. SPEAKING PERSONALLY, MISOFF AGREED THAT ART. VI IN ITSELF DID NOT LEND PERMANENT CHARACTER TO COMPOSITION OF NINE DESIGNATED MEMBERS; THAT IN FACT ALL BOARD SEATS IN THIS CATEGORY WERE RE-DESIGNATED EACH JUNE. THEREFORE, IF SPAIN AND SWEDEN WISHED TO CHALLENGE ITALY'S CONTINUED TENURE, THEY WOULD BE WELL ADVISED TO PUT FORWARD STRONG TECHNICAL SUPPORTING ARGUMENTS AND TO SEEK SUPPORT OF OTHER MEMBERS OF WE GROUP. MISSION WELCOMED CONSTRUCTIVE EFFORTS OF ALL CONCERNED TO ACHIEVE A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION ON THE MATTER BEFORE THE JUNE BOARD.

5. MISSION WILL REPORT ON WHAT IT LEARNS OF WE GROUP MEETING MAY 16. LEAHY
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